

THE DOWNTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2016

(*) indicates the congregation will stand if able

We Gather in God's Name

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*She needs wide open spaces
Room to make her big mistakes.
She needs new faces
She knows the high stakes.*

– The Dixie Chicks

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Johannes Brahms

Chorale Prelude on *O Gott, du frommer Gott*

Translation - O God, Thou Faithful God

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Matthew 4:1-11

L: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

P: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

L: People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

P: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

L: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

P: We worship the Lord our God alone.

*HYMN #165

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

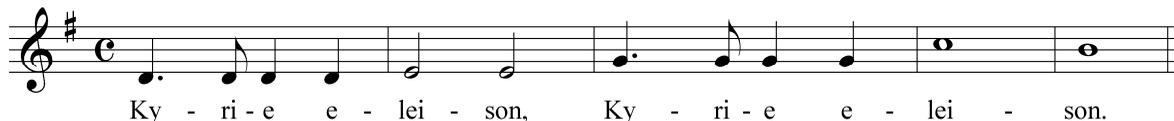
CALL TO CONFESSION

based on Psalm 32:1-5

The Psalmist declared: “When I kept quiet, my bones wore out; I was groaning all day long – every day, every night!” Let us find relief for our weary bones and discover true happiness by breaking our silence in corporate confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

refrain



(Kyrie eleison means "Lord, have mercy.")

**Before you, Jesus Christ,
we admit how and where we have underestimated our influence,
letting our words or silences hurt,
abusing trust, betraying confidences.**

refrain

**We admit how and where we have made a show of our religion,
attracting more attention to us, and less to you.**

refrain

**We admit to where in our lives a vague interest
has become a dangerous passion,
and we are not sure what to do or whether we are still in control.**

refrain

**Lord, Jesus Christ,
if we have looked or longed for an easier gospel,
a lighter cross, a less demanding savior,
then turn our eyes and avert our longing,
from what we want to choose to the One who has chosen us.**

refrain

**From the depths of hearts we ask forgiveness
for all that we now confess in silence.**

refrain

**Forgive our unfaithfulness, and, for our better living,
give us not the remedy we desire tomorrow,
but the grace you offer today.**

refrain

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING THE PEACE** based on Psalm 32:1, 11

L: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven!
Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

P: Thanks be to God!

Let us share our joy with one another with signs
of reconciliation and friendship.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you!

PARISH LIFE & CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Word Is Proclaimed

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

based on Matthew 4:1,4

O Lord, may the words of your mouth be our daily bread, and may the leading of your Spirit become our way; in Jesus's name. Amen.

WORD FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

BLESSING

based on 1 John 4:4, 7

Little children, you are from God....

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

*(Infants and small children are dismissed to the care of the nursery staff.
Older children are invited to remain and worship.)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 32

(OT p. 506)

L: The Word of the Lord P: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

(NT p. 3)

L: The Gospel of the Lord. P: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Journey Into Wilderness

Sarah Jordan

We Respond to God's Word

*HYMN #783

“When We Are Tested”

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,
AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read **bold**)

based on Psalm 32:6-10; Matthew 4:2-10

With all the faithful, let us pray to the Lord,
who is our hiding place in times of trouble,
who surrounds us with glad cries of deliverance.

We pray for all who are hungry –
whether hungry for power and glory
or hungry for a simple meal.

Show the mighty that you alone can satisfy their deepest need,
and feed the poor from the abundance of your good creation.

We pray for the church in times of trial –
whether tested by tempestuous change
or tempted by safety of the status quo.

Give us peace when anger and fear threaten to divide us,
and challenge us when we are too comfortable in this world.

We pray for leaders in high places—
whether determined to help those who suffer
or distant from the cries of the oppressed.

Open their eyes to see your saving power at work,
and open their ears to hear your prophets' calls for justice.

We pray for all those people or situations
that have moved us to joy or concern.

Hear now the prayers we lift to you in silence or aloud.

[Here you may say aloud your prayers of petition and celebration.]

Lord God, instruct us in the way we should go
and let your steadfast love surround us always;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, who invited us to pray ...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROUS GIVING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth: Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.
Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only love maketh glad.
Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token love will not fail.
Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.

— Edith Williams

DOXOLOGY #605

“Praise to God the Father”

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son; praise to God the Spir - it: praise to the Three - in - One. Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence on the fourth staff.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (*unison*)

God of provision and protection, bless these offerings so that we might provide bread to those who are hungry, shelter for those left out in the cold, and opportunities for worship and service for all your people. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

We Seal God's Word Upon Our Hearts

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

L: The Lord be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Holy God, we come to the table as an Easter people;
tempted to tell only our faith stories of triumph and victory,
tempted to move directly to the celebration with lilies and Alleluias.

P: **Hear us, Holy God, as we pray.**

L: Holy God, we come to the table scarred from the world;
bringing some vague awareness that all is not well,
bringing some distant memory that the costly cross looms in the distance.

P: **Hear us, Holy God, as we pray.**

L: Holy God, we come to the table with a sense of defeat;
knowing that we too have silently witnessed crucifixions,
knowing that we too have failed to count the cost of following Christ.

P: **Hear us, Holy God, as we pray.**

L: Holy God, we come to this table not unlike those disciples
who would share in this feast and only hours later abandon and deny
the one who took bread, and after giving thanks for it said,

“This is my body broken for you.”

And who then took the cup, saying,

“This is the covenant sealed in my blood, poured out for you
for the forgiveness of sins.”

Holy God, we come to this table tempted to deny the pain of life,
scarred from too many broken dreams,
knowing that we are not immune to evil's lure.

And you meet us at this table;
embracing us in our brokenness, naming us "beloved",
claiming us for an eternity.
These are the gifts of God, for us the people of God.

P: We thank you, living, loving God.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Christ is host of this table. Everyone, without exception, is welcome.
We will receive the Lord's Supper by coming forward and dipping a piece of
bread into the cup. Please eat as you are served.*

COMMUNION ANTHEM Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts Henry Purcell

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts.
Shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers, but spare us,
Lord most holy, O God most mighty. O holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou most worthy judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any
pains of death to fall from thee. Amen.

– Sentences from the Burial Service

We Bear God's Words Into the World

*HYMN #166 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION #227 "Jesus, Remember Me"
Sung three times

Je - sus re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Our Mission

Gathering in the heart of Nashville, we are a community of disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek the welfare of the city as we seek the kingdom of God. We are an historic church working to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation. Together we actively share God's grace and love through worship, education and service, and through being an active voice in promoting justice and peace in our community and the world.

Our Values and Ethos

We believe that every person is a beloved child of God.

Our welcome extends to everyone, whatever your economic circumstances, your faith background, your racial or ethnic identity, your sexual orientation or gender identity, or your political affiliations.

As a diverse community we seek to intentionally embody God's radically inclusive and transformative love for everyone. With love and grace, we are called as a community to grow together as a voice for justice and peace - each as we are, with our unique human stories of joy and struggle.

SESSION 2017

Rev. Mike Wilson, Moderator

Betsy Bahn, Clerk

Jeff Koontz, Treasurer

Class of 2017

Tom Byl
Michael Arwood
Ridley Wills II
Claire Armbruster

Class of 2018

Cary Gibson
Michael Korak

Class of 2019

Chuck Cardona
Jack Henderson
Justin Near

THE CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Mike Wilson, Pastor
Reginald Hughes, Office Manager
Suzie Lane, Children's Education Director

Paulino Jarquin, Facilities Manager
Dr. William Taylor, Organist/Choir Director

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Where Passion Meets Action In Downtown Nashville!

Check us out at: www.dpchurch.com
or scan this QR code

